# Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

Memphis/Shelby County Tennessee



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2018 Environmental Show of the South (ESOS) Convention

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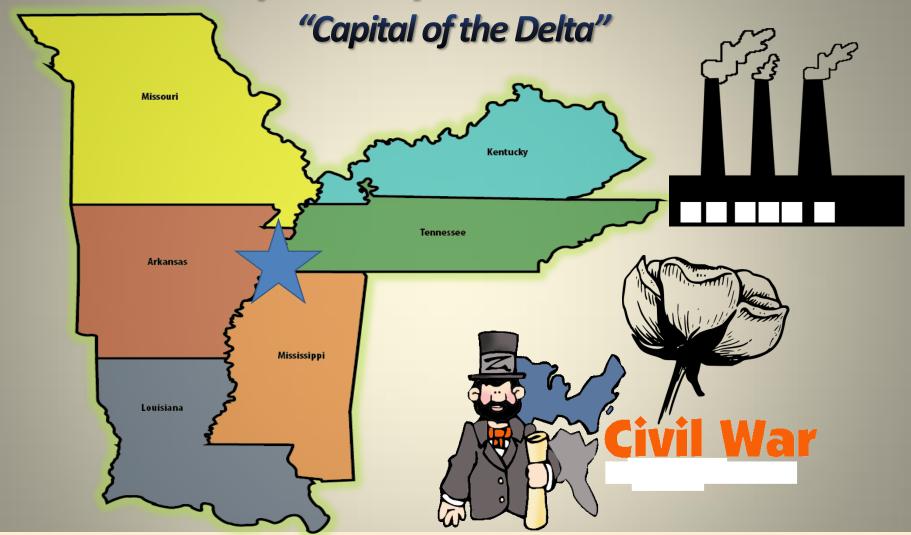
### **Disclosure Statement**

There are no financial disclosures or conflicts of interest to report regarding the content in this presentation.

Shelby County Health Department Elizabeth Shockley



Shelby County Tennessee known as the





### **Shelby County Tennessee**

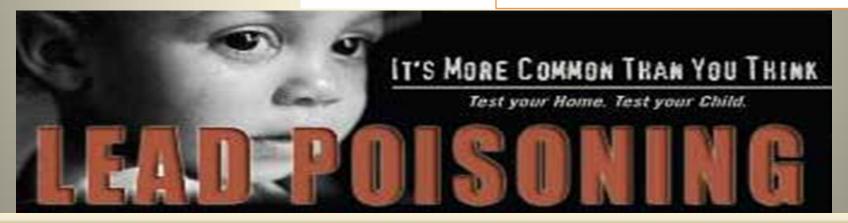
#### **Total Population: 927,644**

- 52.1 % Black/African American
- 40.6 % White/Caucasian
- 5.6 % Latino/Hispanic
- 1.7 % Other



#### **338,366** - Households

- 34.50 % have children
- 3 children/household average Income median = \$39,593/yr Income Per capita = \$20,856/yr
- 170,736 people (18%) are living below the poverty line.
  - 26.4 % are < 18 yrs old
  - 10.30 % are over 65







### **HOUSING STOCK – Memphis, TN**

Housing Stock pre 1950 – 398,274 units

Occupied – 349,775

Owner Occupied – 212,016

Rental – 137,759

Vacant - 48,499

What happens when you combine old housing stock and an impoverished community?





### **The Lead Poisoning Equation**

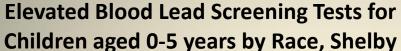
Pre-1950 Low Income Housing Stock

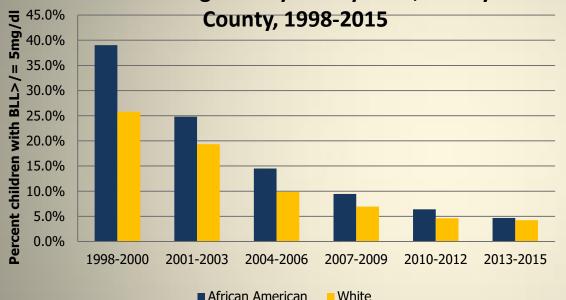
**Families living Poverty** 

Hundreds of Lead Poisoned Children Yearly

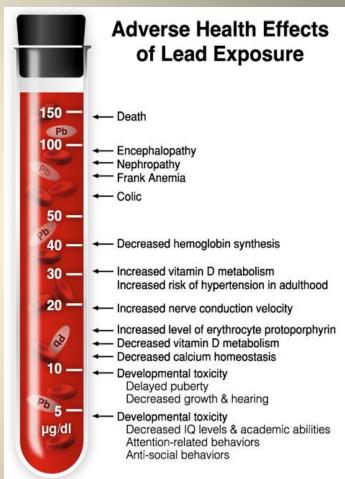


### Lead Poisoning – Memphis, TN





Note: Percent of screening tests with missing data for race has increased most years and ranges from 35% to 70%



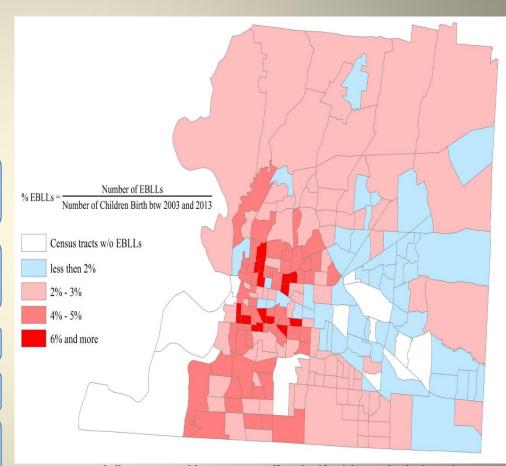


### **LEAD POISONING RATE BY ZIP CODE**

### **Place Matters**

Lead Poisoning rates are not evenly distributed across Shelby County. Zip Codes with the Highest Lead Poisoning Rates Have:

- High Poverty Rates
- High Unemployment
- Low Educational Attainment
- High Crime Rate
- Food Desserts
- Transportation Concerns
- Socioeconomic Conditions



Data Source: Shelby County Health Department Office of Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases, prepared from State of Tennesse Lead Tracking and Survellance System, 2012–2016.



# What Accounted for POSTIVE changes in lowering the Lead Poisoning Rate?

Partnerships/ Collaborations Programs/
Projects/
Initiatives

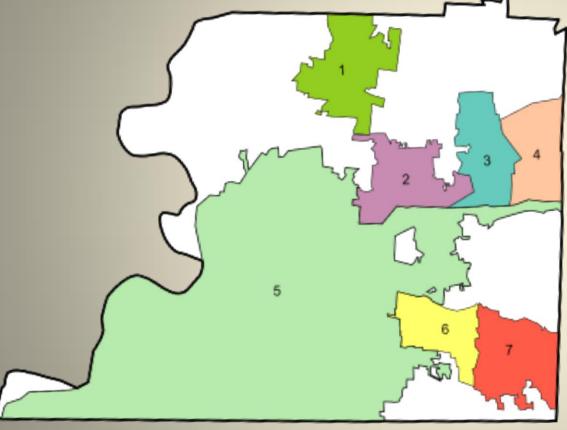
Collective Impact



### **Shelby County Tennessee**

7 Municipalities











#### Legend

- Millington
- 2 Bartlett
- 3 Lakeland
- 4 Arlington
- 5 City of Memphis
- 6 Germantown
- 7 Collierville







### **Agency PARTNERING**



- Housing Agencies/Funding
- Medical Centers/Clinics
- Educational System
- Faith Based Organizations
- National Initiatives









## Shelby County Health Department's Efforts to Reduce and Eliminate Lead Poisoning

The Memphis Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (MCLPPP) is committed to eliminating lead poisoning throughout Shelby County. This program is unique in the State of Tennessee in that it constitutes a successful collaborative of grant-funded efforts between The Shelby County Health Department, Tennessee Department of Health, The City of Memphis Housing and Community Development, and The Shelby County Department of Housing.

#### Strategies include:

- # Increase blood Lead Screenings to children residing in high risk communities
- Develop and implement a series of preventative exposure educational plans
- Increase the number of "Lead Safe" housing units
- Ensure a strong public health infrastructure, to provide a comprehensive medical case management Program
- Decrease the rate of Lead Poisoning in children under 6 years old



#### **Partnering for Lead Safe Communities**

The recommendations present many layers of responsibility to achieve the vision of a "Lead Safe Community". The following chart will detail and indicate some of the partnerships that have been established to eliminate Lead Poisoning in Shelby County

#### **Policy Makers**

How should federal, state and local governments and corporate entities help public health, providers and agencies to reduce Lead hazard exposure and increase Lead safe housing units?

#### Health Clinics/Provider Groups Private Practices

How can healthcare providers increase blood lead screening and Lead hazard awareness to reduce the rate of Lead Poisoning?



#### Homes Principles?

**Individuals/Consumers** 

**Community Agencies** 

How can social service

provider and other

community agencies

address Lead Poisoning

Prevention and Healthy

What actions can individuals and families take to reduce Lead hazard exposure?

Partnering for Lead Safe Community

#### **Memphis Shelby County Community Groups**

How can the community be empowered to action? How can the community act to reduce Lead poisoning and increase safe housing?





### **Lead Exposure in the Home**





#### How much lead dust does it take to poison a child?

Less than the size of a sugar packet spread around a two-bedroom house.















### HOUSING STOCK – Memphis, TN



**Before**Lead Hazard Control Work



After
Lead Hazard Control Work



### HOUSING STOCK – Memphis, TN



Before lead hazard control

3135 Lead Safe Units

After lead hazard control







### **Health and Housing**

What a great combination!











### **Screening Opportunities**













## Special Thanks!

The Shelby County Health Department extends our sincere gratitude to the many community representatives and organizations, including those involved with addressing Lead Poisoning Elimination and who are committed to ensuring every child in Shelby County has the opportunity to live in a Lead safe home.

To join the movement, please visit www.shelbytnhealth.com or call (901) 222-9000.









# Questions?



Shelby County
Health Department
Childhood Lead Poisoning
Prevention Program

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The National Lead Information Center www.epa.gov/lead 1-800-424-5323

HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control www.hud.gov/offices/lead

